

From: "Russell D. Hoffman" <rhoffman@animatedsoftware.com>
To: <docket@energy.state.ca.us>
Date: 10/9/2005 10:25:47 AM
Subject: Attn: Docket No. 04-IEP-1J / 2005 Integrated Energy Policy Report / CEC-100-2005-007-CTD

To: California Energy Commission Dockets Unit;
 Attn: Docket No. 04-IEP-1J / 2005 Integrated Energy Policy Report / CEC-100-2005-007-CTD
 1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
 Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
 <docket@energy.state.ca.us>

Re: Energy Report: Nuclear Power, 2005 Workshops
 Subject: Docket No. 04-IEP-1J / 2005 Integrated Energy Policy Report / CEC-100-2005-007-CTD

Date: October 9th, 2005

From: Russell D. Hoffman, Concerned Citizen, Carlsbad, CA

To The Commission,

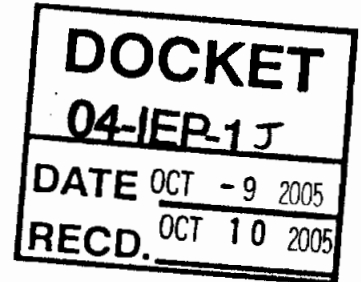
The section of the Integrated Energy Policy Report covering nuclear power is amazingly short (about 3 pages) considering the importance of the issue to California's citizens. It is clear that the California Energy Commission (hereinafter, the "Commission") has no intent of regulating our nuclear power plants based on the actual damage they are able to cause -- because the Commission assumes the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has attended to all the relevant details and has magically made catastrophic failure impossible, instead of recognizing that this whole debate is about a catastrophe-in-waiting which MUST be stopped through a civil regulatory process.

A realistic look at the history of nuclear power in America over the past few years would reveal to the Commission that this is a fantasy -- a dangerous assumption. Safety is the ONLY issue the Commission has been appointed to deal with. That is -- to help us choose a safe, cost-effective energy policy for Californians. The NRC is ensuring expensive and even catastrophic problems for future Californians. Nuclear power is neither safe nor cost-effective, but you do have to consider ALL the relevant factors to reach that conclusion -- half-hearted attempts will not necessarily reach the correct conclusion -- such as we have already seen with so many California State Agencies, such as the CPUC. But moral responsibility does not end with either ineptitude or ignorance of the facts which are relevant to the case.

Several related items are included below. A copy of this letter will be provided in written form to the Commission as part of a complete statement for Docket No. 04-IEP-1J.

Sincerely,

Russell Hoffman
 Concerned Citizen
 Carlsbad, CA



Inclusions:

- 1) Letter published in CounterPunch and Al Jazeera Online (includes comments by Karl Grossman)
- 2) Community Forum published in the North County Times
- 3) Letter I've been told will be published in the North County Times soon
- 4) Contact information for this author

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1) Letter published in CounterPunch and Al Jazeera Online (includes comments by Karl Grossman)

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Subject: IAEA wins Nobel Peace Prize -- only giving it to the DOE, the NRC, or the nuclear industry itself would be more ridiculous!

October 7th, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dear Readers:

The International Atomic Energy Agency, promoters of nuclear power (which are nothing more than slow nuclear weapons) has actually won the Nobel Peace Prize this year (2005).

The only more inappropriate winners would be the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) or the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), or perhaps the nuclear industry itself.

This award amounts to a wholehearted endorsement of nuclear power by the Nobel Committee. It amounts to a wholehearted endorsement of the lie that at most a few thousand people have died because of Chernobyl, when in fact the deaths are surely 10 or 100 times higher than the IAEA ever would admit. And the lie that nobody died because of Three Mile Island. And the lie that nobody died because of EVERY nuclear power plant around the world -- which together are creating about 50 NEW tons of nuclear waste every day, which the IAEA endorses and supports and supposedly regulates. Their idea of regulation is to allow as much nuclear material to be released into the environment as is necessary to continue the PROFITABLE operation of nuclear power plants! (This policy even has a technical term: ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable).)

This award by the Nobel Committee amounts to an endorsement of the continued creation of ever-increasing piles of dangerous, terrorist-targeted nuclear waste from nuclear power plants, whose byproduct is the very same bomb material the IAEA claims to be opposing, and has hoodwinked the world into thinking it is stopping the proliferation of.

This is an endorsement of genocide. This is an endorsement of dishonesty. This is an endorsement of the routine radioactive pollution of our environment by the nuclear industry. This is an endorsement of the destruction of the human genome. This is an endorsement of self-serving, secretive committees of insiders making vital decisions which affect us all.

This is a shame.

Sincerely,

Russell Hoffman
Concerned Citizen
Carlsbad, CA

The author, an independent researcher and educational software developer, has studied nuclear weapons and nuclear power for more thirty years. His essays are currently distributed via email and on the web, and have also been published by the North County Times, CounterPunch, Nuclear Monitor, TruthOut, and elsewhere. His essays have also been published in Australia, Brazil, India, Pakistan, Spain, etc.. A partial collection of essays and related programs written by this author is shown below:

Learn about The Effects of Nuclear War here:

http://www.animatedsoftware.com/envirom/no_nukes/tenw/nuke_war.htm

POISON FIRE USA: An animated history of major nuclear activities in the continental United States:

www.animatedsoftware.com/poifu/poifu.swf

How does a nuclear power plant work? Animations of PWRs and BWRs:

http://www.animatedsoftware.com/envirom/nukequiz/nukequiz_one/nuke_parts/reactor_parts.swf

Internet Glossary of Nuclear Terminology / "The Demon Hot Atom":

<http://www.animatedsoftware.com/hotwords/index.htm>

SHUT SAN ONOFRE!:

<http://www.animatedsoftware.com/envirom/onofre/index.htm>

STOP CASSINI web site:

<http://www.animatedsoftware.com/cassini/index.htm>

NO NUKES IN SPACE: (FLASH animation):

<http://www.animatedsoftware.com/mx/nasa/columbia/index.swf>

or try:

<http://www.animatedsoftware.com/mx/nasa/columbia/index.html>

List of every nuclear power plant in America, with history, activist orgs, specs, etc.:

http://www.animatedsoftware.com/envirom/no_nukes/nukelist.htm

List of ~300 books and videos about nuclear issues in my collection (donations welcome!):

http://www.animatedsoftware.com/envirom/no_nukes/mybooks.htm

At 01:15 PM 10/7/2005 -0400, Karl Grossman wrote:

>Hi Russell,

> You've written a brilliant essay on this outrage of the IAEA

> getting the Nobel Peace Prize.

> Here, attached, is a presentation I gave less than two weeks ago

> in the auditorium in the Nobel Institute in Oslo right next to the small

> room where, around an oval table, the Nobel judges make their decisions.

- > Clearly, no one from the Nobel operation was listening to what I
- > and many others were saying.
- > Karl

Presentation of Karl Grossman

Professor, State University of New York/College at Old Westbury
Nuclear-Free Future Awards Ceremony
Nobel Institute Oslo, Norway September 24, 2005

In a building about a person who invented dynamite and attempted to turn that into something good with his Nobel Prizes we honor people who are challenging nuclear dynamite. And working to end the world's deadly experience with atomic technology and do something good with energy: a transition to safe, clean, renewable energy.

The costs of the use of nuclear and fossil fuel power continue to mount.

We meet as another name for global warming giant Hurricane Rita pounds my country, the United States.

That follows by just two weeks a second manifestation, also largely a result of global warming, the giant Hurricane Katrina devastating my nation.

Maybe, just maybe, the impacts of fossil fuel use and consequent global warming on our planet's weather will spur my nation, at long last, to turn to the safe, sustainable energy technologies now available.

But there is huge resistance from the oil, gas and coal industries intimately tied into the Bush administration.

Oil, gas and coal have continued to be unceasingly promoted by the Bush administration at the cost of implementing solar, wind and the many clean, safe energy technologies that are ready and available today.

And in the U.S. and in a number of other countries in the world, misdirected governments like the Bush administration, and public agencies, push nuclear power.

They squander the peoples' treasuries, divert action in bringing safe energy online, and they lie.
Nuclear power kills.

But don't tell that to the International Atomic Energy Agency established in the 1950s as an international counterpart of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

The U.S. AEC was eliminated in the 1970s for being no more than a tool of the nuclear industry but the IAEA, the biggest entity under the United Nations umbrella, remains, pushing atomic technology and lying about it.

Most recently, the IAEA and its brother UN entity, the World Health Organization which must, by written agreement, allow the IAEA to review any of its research on radioactivity blatantly lied about the Chernobyl accident. A report released by the Chernobyl Forum, of which the IAEA and

WHO are two leading members, claimed that as of this year only 50 persons in all have died as a result of the radioactivity released when that nuclear plant exploded.

The IAEA and the Bush administration and other public and corporate entities around the world are now pushing for a "revival" of nuclear power.

In the wake of the Three Mile Island accident, Chernobyl disaster the effects of which, I might note, have been deeply felt here in Scandinavia, the insoluble problem of nuclear waste, how any nuclear plant gives a nation the atomic material and trained personnel for atomic bombs and nuclear plants are sitting ducks for terrorists, people have been saying NO to nuclear power.

But the IAEA, the Bush administration, Russia's Ministry of Atomic Energy, the General Electric Co. and others keep pushing and not telling the truth.

Today here at the Nobel Institute we honor a person who is a model for the world in working for the good energy way.

Preben Maeggaard says "the challenge of our generation is to develop the necessary skills to bring the abundance of clean energy into the service of humankind."

As chairperson of the World Council for Renewable Energy, president of the World Wind Energy Association, director of the Nordic Folk Center for Renewable Energy, president of the World Wind Energy Association, vice president of Eurosolar, he has been a global leader in moving for the world to get all its energy from the sun, wind, biomass, the waves and other clean, free, safe sources.

He says: "Every building façade and roof is a potential power plant. Let agriculture deliver energy parallel to food. Let a windmill stand on every hill or other windy sites. In the valleys, hydropower. The ocean's energy also is waiting to become harnessed."

And he labors to make that real.

And he is realistic about the forces that push us toward atomic destruction.

He is a leader in the effort to create within the framework of the United Nations an Agency for Renewable Energy.

With great respect, the 2005 Nuclear-Free Future Award for Solutions is given to Preben Maeggaard who is showing the world that our energy future is in safe, clean, renewable power.

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2) Community Forum published in the North County Times, Sept., 2005:
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From:
http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2005/09/07/opinion/commentary/18_19_439_6_05.txt

Nukes are no good

By: RUSSELL HOFFMAN

Most of society gets it, but reporters, politicians and industrialists still don't. Nukes are no good.

The North County Times characterizes the recent blackouts as a "wake-up call." But they were not caused by power shortages per se; it was the loss of a major inter-tie, one of only two that feed Southern California.

This is proof we need a better grid, just as Buckminster Fuller predicted decades ago. It's no surprise to any realistic "environmentalist," many of whom have long advocated for a better grid, in order to get clean energy from, for example, the windswept plains of Wyoming to California (where local citizens, whom some call environmentalists, refuse to even allow wind farms in Banner Grade, lest the pristine and unspoiled beauty ---- fires, hundreds of abandoned mines, and thousands of cars notwithstanding ---- be destroyed by the large blades).

Farmers in Wyoming like the idea of a cash cow they don't even have to milk.

Your editorial mentions only coal plants in Wyoming, but plans are afoot (opposed by coal companies, but otherwise generally supported) to put vast wind farms throughout that state's grazing areas. The cows have never complained ---- the blades never swoop low enough to hit them ---- and humans too are utterly safe. And for those who rapture about raptors, we've tried to get offshore wind farms built but can't, thanks to virtual monopolies by Southern California Edison, who wants to keep San Onofre running despite the billions ---- not hundreds of millions, as for other types of power plants, but billions of dollars in needed upgrades and repairs. San Onofre is falling apart ---- rapidly approaching your "30-year" moment when any old plant (in your opinion) is "wheezing at the outer edge of their service lives."

You say that meanwhile, the economy is booming. So let developers, who must already pay for new roads, schools, parks and so forth, also pay for renewable energy solutions. Not nuclear power, which is prone to outages just when it's needed most. California's nuclear power plants are closed on average about one day a week if you include refueling outages, and at least one day a month even if you don't. Some years are much worse, and you never know what kind of year these old clunkers will have next ---- maybe a catastrophic one.

A meltdown is not out of the question, and nuclear industry estimates concerning the possibility of such an accident are probably off by two orders of magnitude or more. Renewable energy has no such risk. And generally, the financial risk is not of total failure, but of partial failure, where if things go sour, you might not get a full return on your investment as quickly as you expected. It is unlikely to be a total financial catastrophe, let alone an environmental one.

Renewables are not susceptible to terrorism. Coal-fired plants aren't,

either. Nukes are. Osama knows it, and so does nearly everyone else (except the aforementioned reporters, politicians and industrialists).

Russell Hoffman lives in Carlsbad.

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3) Letter I've been told will be published in the North County Times soon

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October 2nd, 2005 (CORRECTED VERSION SENT OCT. 3rd 2005)

To The Editor, North County Times

Dan McSwain's September 25th, 2005 Perspective article, "Semptra's big power squeeze," mentions San Onofre only once, when recent upgrading of nearby transmission lines is noted.

Yet the article pretends to address environmental issues related to decommissioning power plants, suggesting (with a straight face, I presume) that clean-up of the fossil-fuel powered Encinas power plant after 50 years of operation would be so staggering that the prime coastal land would probably be left barren!

Just try to get San Onofre clean without polluting something else terribly and PERMANENTLY in the process! Without pouring billions of gallons of radioactive water into our oceans. Without spending a small fortune. And after a meltdown, spent fuel pool fire, or dry cask fire, well, just forget clean-up at all. If you live, you will be moved away permanently.

Even without the added stability and power the Sunrise Powerlink can give the area, San Onofre should be closed. It has poisoned our land for decades. SCE's spokesperson repeatedly lies to the media and to the public. Every day, San Onofre puts us at grave risk due to terrorism, so-called "natural" events, and engineering failures.

Why does Mr. McSwain's article ignore this dragon in our living room?

Sincerely,

Russell Hoffman
Energy user
Carlsbad, CA

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4) Contact information for this author

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Please be sure that "Unsubscribe-me-please" appears in the subject line.